

Stephen Seyler SBID Executive Security Director

#### SUMMARY FOR 6-5-17 THROUGH 7-2-17

This report takes us through week 26 of 2017. We continue to struggle with mentally ill and violent people on the streets. Many, but not all are homeless. At this time last year we handled 1357 radio calls. So far this year we have handled 1516 which is an increase of 159 over last year's record pace. This too is a challenge as the increased calls takes time away from high visibility patrol and other duties.

#### **EVENTS OF INTEREST:**

On 6-5-17, we received a call to meet the Street Plus employee at Hollywood and Orange. The employee said that he was in a company truck emptying trash cans at Hollywood and Highland when a man approached and threw a wadded piece of paper hitting the employee in the chest. The suspect then started yelling profanities and challenged the employee to fight.

The employee got into his truck and drove to Hollywood and Orange in order to empty the trash can there. The suspect appeared, started shouting profanities and spit all over the employee's windshield. The employee retreated to his truck, but the suspect followed and spit on his face and body. He was screaming obscenities at the employee who was in fear for his safety. He then deployed pepper spray on the suspect who then ran off.

On 6-6-17, our officers responded to a call of a man causing a disturbance at the Denny's located at 6100 Sunset. They found a 25 year old man sitting in the front booth screaming incoherently. All attempts at calming the man failed. He was asked to leave, but continued screaming instead. As he continued screaming he was ordered to leave. He was unimpressed. He was finally advised that he would be arrested if he did not leave. This finally registered and the man went on his way to spread good will and cheer to another location.

On 6-9-17, we received a call of a man assaulting customers at Groundworks located at 1501 Cahuenga. A man was throwing powder on customers as they entered the store. Our officers advised him and sent him on his way.

On 6-16-17, we received a call of a man refusing to leave the bathroom at the Rite Aid located at 6130 Sunset. The manager said the man had been in there for over an hour. Our officers knocked, but the man refused to come out. The man finally came out when the officers discussed forcing the door.

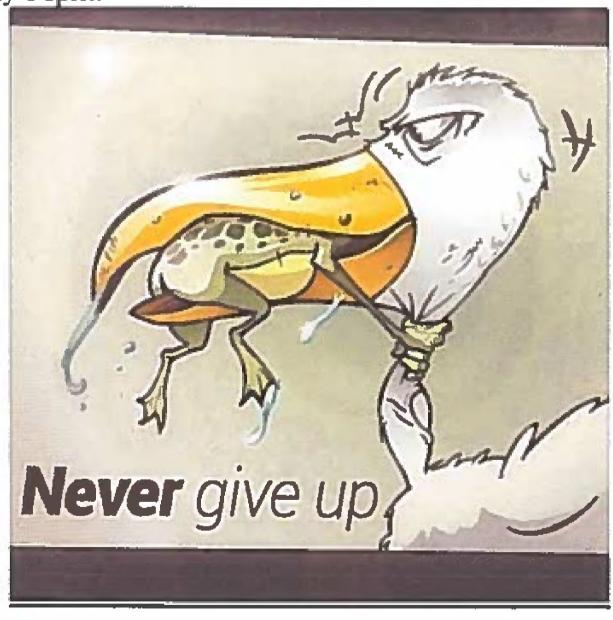
The man was very agitated. He challenged our officers to fight and refused to leave until he got his shirt from the bathroom. There was no shirt there. He let loose a barrage of profanity as he slowly left the store.





On 6-20-17, we received a call of a man causing a disturbance at Amoeba Music located at 6400 Sunset. An employee said that Chris had been banging on the windows and then tried to steal a shirt. Chris left and went to the Jack in the Box across the street. Our officers contacted him. He was harassing customers at the location. We escorted him off the property at the request of the security guard. We recently learned that an employee was robbed at gunpoint while walking home for Amoeba.

On 6-27-17, we said goodbye to 14 year BID officer Denny Watkins. He had a 34 year career with the LAPD before working for the BID. He had a natural rapport with all sorts of people, a unique sense of humor and a gift for writing. He will be missed. Denny never failed to back a partner nor back down from a dangerous situation. Below is a depiction of Denny's sprit.



### **MEETINGS ATTENDED:**

- 1) 6-6-17 Mgt. Training Burbank
- 2) 6-6-17 LAHSA Outreach
- 3) 6-8-17 1645 Vine Security Issues



- 4) 6-8-17 DMH Healthy Neighborhood
- 5) 6-8-17 Taser Conference Call
- 6) 6-8-17 H+H Retail
- 7) 6-9-17 Woman's Day Outreach-Center
- 8) 6-13-17 SBID Board
- 9) 6-13-17 Deputy Mayor BID Walk
- 10) 6-14-17 BID Joint Security
- 11) 6-15-17 H+H Retail
- 12) 6-15-17 HBID Board
- 13) 6-19-17 1429 Security Issue-Clean up
- 14) 6-21-17 Musician's Institute Make Music day
- 15) 6-22-17 H+H Retail
- 16) 6-22-17 The Source Outreach-Durant Library
- 17) 6-28-17 CPAB
- 18) 6-29-17 LAPD Update BID Office
- 19) 6-29-17 H+H Retail
- 20) 6-29-17 Housing and Social Services Forum
- 21) 6-30-17 USC Medical Triage Project

#### **OUTREACH:**

On 6-6-17, our outreach team found thirty year old Skylar in Selma Park. He was acting strangely and spoke of harming himself. The team flagged down and LAPD unit who handled the situation.

On 6-7-17, we responded to a call of a man attempting to steal a pair of shoes from the Goodwill located at 1218 Vine. The officers contacted Maurico and saw that he had no shoes and that his socks were badly worn. He was homeless and had no money. The officers bought him the shoes and a grateful Maurico went on his way.





During this period we delivered a large amount of clothing to our outreach partners in Hollywood. The items were donated by our employees and a large amount came from surplus clothing from our Burbank office.

On 6-13-17, our outreach team met Christian at Hollywood and Highland. He is 25 years old and has a congenital birth defect to his feet. He has been homeless for about a year. He said that he has great pain to his feet and is in constant agony. Out team walked him to the Center so a nurse could evaluate him. The nurse wrote a letter for Christian to take to urgent care at the county hospital in east Los Angeles.

Christian had no way to get to the hospital. Stephen of our outreach team approached me and asked if he could drive Christian to the hospital. I told him I could not use a company vehicle for that. He then offered to sign out for the day and take him in his personal vehicle and on his on time. I pointed out that Christian had fought with our officers in the past. Stephen pointed out that Christian has been in constant pain for 11 years and that could certainly have an effect on his interactions with others. I thought that was a reasonable point.

I sent Christian and Stephen to the hospital using Uber. James Bunch was kind enough to allow me to write off this expense. Christian had transportation to get back. I lost track of Stephen as his phone died. I became worried, but he made his way back taking the bus and metro.



Christian, Stephen and Uber car

On 6-15-17, our outreach team contacted the longtime troubled homeless Michael. He has had severe substance abuse and hostility issues over the years. On this date he complained of a skin issue (possibly scabies or bed bugs). He had gone to the Saban Clinic, but the medicine he received was not working. Our officers suggested he launder his clothing in hot water. They got him some new clothing. He said he is only drinking beer now and is trying to stop altogether.



On 6-21-17, our officers were enroute to a call when they saw an elderly woman named Theresa fall to the street on the crosswalk at El Centro and Fountain. Her shopping cart fell over and she was lying in traffic. Our officers stopped and helped her and her dog off the street. Passing motorists also helped. The asphalt was very hot. One motorist gave Theresa water. We tried to get her medical attention, but she refused.

On 6-22-17 our outreach team contacted Mayra Ramirez Garcia (f/h, 26, from Santa Ana) at 6800 Hollywood Blvd. She has been in Hollywood for only a few days. Mayra is bipolar and addicted to meth. She is sure she is related to the following celebrities; Gael Garcia Bernal, Paul Walker, The rock band Linkin Park, and a few actresses from TV. We gave her information to the SB 82 Team from DMH. They (hopefully) will contact her, do an assessment and get her the help she needs.





Mayra at 6800 Hollywood

On 6-29-17, our officers found 37 year old Rusty sleeping in front of the Rite Aid located at 6130 Sunset. The officers asked if he was OK and he said he had injured his back two days prior. He said he was in great pain so the officers called paramedics. They responded and took Rusty to the hospital.

On 6-30-17, I received a call from Nathan at the Center. He was working with a USC medical student named Jonathan who is working on a combination homeless outreach and medical triage plan. He wanted to see the situation in Hollywood first hand so we sent him out on patrol with our team.

#### **ENFORCEMENT:**

In the Sunset BID, we have made a total of 50 arrests. Three were for drinking in public, 34 for alcohol referrals, 10 for trespass, 1 for blocking the sidewalk, 1 for theft, and 1 felony. We also made 110 homeless referrals, assisted 29 agencies, provided 173 foot beat patrols for a total of 112 hours, assisted 2625 citizens, handled 1516 radio calls for service, and made 1738 business contacts.



#### **NOTED ARRESTS:**

On 6-12-17, we responded to a call of a man trespassing at the Office Depot located at 1240 Vine. The manager had asked the man to leave, but he was belligerent and confrontational. He refused to leave. Our officers asked Chris to leave, but he refused shouting profanities at the officers. The officers attempted to place him under arrest, but he resisted. He hit one officer several times with his elbow. He was wrestled to the ground and placed under arrest. There were no injuries.



On 6-14-17, we received a call from the unarmed mall security. They said there was a man waving a knife on the second floor. Our morning team led by Ki Nam responded. We found the suspect sitting on the counter of a cap store called Lids. Merchandise was on the floor. The suspect had a knife in his hand which was bleeding. We later learned that he cut himself when he pulled out the knife. We also learned that the suspect had started choking a tourist. When store employees intervened, the suspect pulled out the knife.

The mall was very crowded with tourists and shoppers. Mall security blocked off the area as our team contained the suspect. Our officers held the man at gun and Taser point. The man was acting very strangely. He did put the knife in his pocket. We were not going to let him leave the store, but our goal was to contain him as LAPD was on the way. There was a smooth transition as their officers arrived. They stepped into the front and our officers moved back into a back-up role. The LAPD officers convinced the man to surrender after just a few minutes and he was placed under arrest.

On 6-20-17, we were having an issue with a man from Ethiopia named Nathaniel at the mall at Hollywood and Highland where my office is located. He snatched brochures from a tour salesman, ran into traffic and was scaring people. He was ordered off the



property by the LAPD, our officers and mall security. At about 11:00 A.M., unarmed mall security came to my office seeking help. The man had just dumped water on someone. All our officers were tied up on calls so I went to assess the situation.

When I got to Hollywood Blvd., I saw the suspect running in my direction. He was waving a sledge hammer. I confronted him and he ran out into the middle of the street causing drivers of vehicles to brake and swerve out of the way. He then ran back to the sidewalk, past me and up to the vacant Foot Locker store on the corner of H+H. I heard a loud boom as he used the hammer to break the four glass doors causing \$20,000.00 in damage.

The suspect ran into the store and I followed fearing that there were employees inside. I found the suspect just to the left of the door and told him that he was under arrest. He came towards me, still holding up the hammer. He made a threat and I sprayed him with pepper spray. It had no effect. He ran out the door. There was a slight delay in my pursuit as the mall guards also deployed pepper spray and I had to duck out of the way.



The suspect headed south on Highland in the middle of the street. I gave him numerous commands to surrender, but he responded incoherently. I feared that he was going to do a carjacking as he kept approaching the driver's side of the many vehicles whose drivers were trying to get out of the way. The suspect would then run over to the west sidewalk where I was following and confront me with the hammer. There were numerous vehicles and pedestrians around making this a dangerous situation.

An LAPD unit arrived and the suspect ran off at a high rate of speed. He made it to the Chick-fil-A at Sunset and Highland where he met up with an LAPD Taser. This gave me a chance to catch up with the pursuit as I had been left in the dust by the suspect's sudden burst of speed. The suspect was arrested and loaded into an ambulance. He was still yelling incoherently. The suspect had committed an assault with a deadly weapon when he threatened the construction worker who tried to stop him from taking the hammer. He also made terrorist threats against me and committed felony vandalism when he broke the doors of the Foot Locker. I later learned that the suspect was left in the care of the hospital and was not booked.





On 6-22-17, our officers found David sleeping against the building at 6525 Sunset. When told that he was trespassing he became very angry and aggressive. He rolled onto the sidewalk and said the officers would have to arrest him as he refused to move. The officers obliged him and placed him under arrest.





### **DEPLOYMENT:**

During this period we worked from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. on Monday through Saturday and 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday. This included officers in vehicles, bicycles, T3's and on foot.

### **TRAINING UPDATE:**

During this period our officers received training in live fire handgun, driver safety, gate safety, heat illness, cultural diversity, workplace safety, sexual harassment and legal update.